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## Japan Elections Next Month; US Pact Main Issue

**FORMULA BOUGHT**  
It may be that even before the debate on Mr. Ben-Gurion's "State of the Nation" address in the Knesset, a formula will be bought to settle the "Lavan Affair." It is clear by now that what is mainly involved is prestige on all sides. Mr. Lavan has variously gone on record saying that he does not require rehabilitation but wishes "the truth" to be established publicly. Yet it seems to the public at least that the more the truth is investigated in one forum after another the more elusive and confusing it seems to become.

Mr. Ben-Gurion, in a speech to Japan's Central Committee that was otherwise critical of many aspects of Mr. Lavan's actions, observed that the Olsan Committee findings left Mr. Lavan, at least as far as the Ben-Gurion was concerned, "free of all blame." He has other bones to pick with Mr. Lavan, but since he was at the Boker at the time of the "Affair," he has never expressed any complaints on these grounds. But while Mr. Lavan's whole sale accusations and the replies they have drawn are banded about, Mapai has been threatened with an internal split, and the opposition parties have caught onto this prospect with enthusiasm. This is a position that Mr. Lavan can rely on as little in the long run as any other member of the party, and certainly its consequences would be graver in the Histadrut than anywhere else. In the Knesset, Mapai is the largest party but has no majority. Even after a crisis, with whatever results, it would still be the largest party. But within the Histadrut, Mapai has a small absolute majority over the other labour parties. Even minor changes in allegiance would upset this relationship and key positions would quickly slip to a combination of Abner Shalom and Ben-Zion Ben-Haim, who have long been hoping for some such gift from heaven. It is Mr. Lavan's supporters in the Histadrut who need a solution to the present impasse more urgently than anyone else.

Mr. Ben-Gurion made no direct reference to the Lavan dispute. His references to the duties and responsibilities of the Israel Army were even warmer than usual and in particular to the fact that in this country the Army is not a separate, purely professional organization far removed from national life, but a part of it in every respect. This implied that attacks on "army" justice became nonsense in a country where an entire generation spent its formative years in military organizations of one kind or another and practically every able-bodied man in early middle life must have held a responsible position in a fighting organization at one time or another.

Mr. Ben-Gurion, on the other hand, was little concerned with general issues. As long as Mapai, with its widely differing views, has no chance, any prospect of breaking it into its constituent parts is valuable. He was hampered in his support of Mr. Lavan's claims by the knowledge that Herut support would tend to weaken his case with his own party, but there was nothing to prevent him from training his sights on Mr. Lavan's opponents in the "Affair," the officers who have been investigated and those whom he called his associates. His adviser in legal matters must have overlooked the fact that his violent public expressions of opinion are the most convincing of arguments why the case cannot in justice be examined by the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, whose Herut members are bound to follow his line, and which would therefore find the issue prejudged.

## Japan Elections Next Month; US Pact Main Issue

**TOKYO (AP). —** The Lower House of the Diet was dissolved yesterday for general elections called for November 20, mainly on the issue of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty. Prior to November 20, the House of Representatives is expected to pass a bill for the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty, which the conservative Government is expected to pass. The bill is expected to be passed by the House of Representatives in the next few days. The bill is expected to be passed by the House of Representatives in the next few days. The bill is expected to be passed by the House of Representatives in the next few days.

## Norway Warns Russia Of Change in Policy

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## Like to Aid Nixon Campaign As Election Tide Favours Kennedy

**WASHINGTON (Reuters). —** With the election tide turning in favour of the Democratic candidate, Senator John Kennedy, President Eisenhower is planning to transfer some of his own popularity to the Republican contender, Vice-President Richard Nixon. He will join Mr. Nixon in a big Republican pre-election rally in New York on November 2, only six days before polling takes place. President Eisenhower said during the week-end in Palm Springs, California, that he and Mr. Nixon were working on a plan to help Mr. Nixon's campaign. The plan was to have Mr. Nixon travel through the country and deliver speeches, while Mr. Eisenhower would remain in the White House and deliver speeches by radio and television.

## Bomb Found in N.Y. Pennsylvania Station

**NEW YORK (AP). —** A bomb was discovered in Pennsylvania Station yesterday morning, the police reported. The bomb was found in a baggage car. The police are investigating the discovery. The bomb was found in a baggage car. The police are investigating the discovery. The bomb was found in a baggage car. The police are investigating the discovery.

## Czechs Help Iraq

**BAGHDAD (Reuters). —** Czechoslovakia is to grant Iraq a \$10 million credit under an economic and technical cooperation agreement signed here Sunday night. The loan, for industrial equipment, is repayable over eight years.

## Anarchy in Leopoldville; Civilians May Be Mobilized

**LEOPOLDVILLE. —** Congolese soldiers, who created havoc here Sunday, were yesterday seen stripping women to the waist on the main avenue of the African quarter. There were other reports of civilians being man-handled by the soldiers. The situation is described as anarchy. The soldiers are seen stripping women to the waist on the main avenue of the African quarter. There were other reports of civilians being man-handled by the soldiers. The situation is described as anarchy.

## 15th U.N. Day

**UNITED NATIONS (AP). —** Secretary-General Hammarskjöld said yesterday that the U.N. on its 15th birthday is still far from its Charter aims. He pleaded with the world not to weaken in its united efforts to overcome difficulties and strengthen the structure of peace. The Secretary-General, who has been under heavy fire from the Soviet bloc in recent weeks for his Congo policy, spoke in the General Assembly, which is celebrating its 15th birthday today. He said that the U.N. is still far from its Charter aims. He pleaded with the world not to weaken in its united efforts to overcome difficulties and strengthen the structure of peace.

## GOLD UP AGAIN

**LONDON (AP). —** The price of gold on the London Bullion Exchange shot up to 298 shillings (\$480.4) yesterday morning in a reversal of the speculative buying which has unsettled the world's financial centres. The price was 270 shillings (\$444.0) on Monday. The price of gold on the London Bullion Exchange shot up to 298 shillings (\$480.4) yesterday morning in a reversal of the speculative buying which has unsettled the world's financial centres.

## Havana Militiamen Found Dead, Hanging

**HAVANA (AP). —** A dead militiaman was reported found hanging from a tree in the Havana area yesterday. The body was found hanging from a tree in the Havana area yesterday. The body was found hanging from a tree in the Havana area yesterday. The body was found hanging from a tree in the Havana area yesterday.

## Sharett Formula May End Issue

**POST Political Correspondent. —** The four-week-long "Lavan Affair" may be ended soon by a public statement that the Government has accepted the Sharett formula. The Government has accepted the Sharett formula. The Government has accepted the Sharett formula. The Government has accepted the Sharett formula.

## Del Rio, Texas (AP). —

**DEL RIO, TEXAS (AP). —** President Eisenhower arrived in this Texas border city yesterday for a brief visit to Mexican President Adolfo Lopez Mateos across the Rio Grande in Ciudad Acuna, Mexico.

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## Mollet Leads Off Attack In Censure Motion

**PARIS. —** Socialist ex-Premier Guy Mollet yesterday warned President de Gaulle's Government it was leading France towards "grave events" if it continued on the present path. The Socialist ex-Premier Guy Mollet yesterday warned President de Gaulle's Government it was leading France towards "grave events" if it continued on the present path. The Socialist ex-Premier Guy Mollet yesterday warned President de Gaulle's Government it was leading France towards "grave events" if it continued on the present path.

## U.S. Withdrawal

**He criticized those who had said that the creation of a French striking force could lead to the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Europe. He said that the creation of a French striking force could lead to the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Europe. He said that the creation of a French striking force could lead to the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Europe.**

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# B-G Opens Knesset with Review Of State's Record and Problems

## But 'Affair' Dominates Debate

**Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter. —** The Winter Term of the Knesset opened yesterday with a speech by the Prime Minister reviewing the nation's achievements and difficulties since the attainment of statehood. Mr. Ben-Gurion pointed out that the nation's achievements and difficulties since the attainment of statehood. Mr. Ben-Gurion pointed out that the nation's achievements and difficulties since the attainment of statehood.

## Herut Demands P.M. Present Cohn Findings to Cabinet

**By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN, POST Knesset Correspondent. —** At the close of the Knesset's political debate tomorrow, Herut will submit a resolution calling upon the Prime Minister to submit to the Cabinet, "without delay and in its entirety" the report of the Cohn Committee. The report of the Cohn Committee. The report of the Cohn Committee. The report of the Cohn Committee.

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# Indo-Pakistan Relations May Improve

But Kashmir Remains Non-Negotiable Issue

By THEODORE DREIBERG  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW DELHI—

When Prime Minister Nehru of India and President Ayub Khan of Pakistan signed the treaty for the use and development of the Indus water system in Karachi last month, they ended a dispute which had dragged on for almost half a century. Even before 1947, when the independence of the Indian sub-continent was converted into an international issue with grave political overtones, the apportionment of the Indus waters was a cause of prolonged controversy between provincial administrations in British India.

There is relief here that this dispute is at last buried, largely as a result of the patient negotiations conducted by the World Bank over the last six years on the basis of proposals made by Mr. David Little, former head of the Tennessee Valley Authority. But at the same time there is disappointment because under the agreement, the world's biggest-ever on riparian rights, India gets only 50 per cent of the total annual flow of 130 million acre feet of water to irrigate 20 million acres of land (10,000,000 hectares) while the rest goes to Pakistan for an acreage of 30 million.

And in the ten-year transitional period during which Pakistan is to build a new canal system and other replacement works, India will share her fifth of the waters of the three eastern rivers—the Sutlej, Ravi and Beas—with Pakistan. Consequently, India will have to abandon some urgently needed irrigation projects to develop agriculture in the mountainous region of Himalayas and hold back by several years the gigantic Rajasthan canal project designed to provide irrigation for the desert region of Rajasthan and enable the settlement of 500,000 peasant families there in the next 10 years.

Again, under the Indus Basin Development Fund created by the World Bank, six foreign countries—Australia, Canada, New Zealand, West Germany, Britain and the U.S.—are contributing \$640m. mainly in grants, for the construction of replacement works in Pakistan. India has agreed to contribute \$174m. for the same purpose, while Pakistan's contribution is some \$150m. Against this big allocation, India has been promised loans of \$30m. from the U.S. and \$20m. from the Bank for an earthen dam with a capacity of 5.5 million cubic feet on the Beas, and a concrete dam on the Ravi.

**Towards Co-Existence**  
The common complaint here that India has done all the giving and Pakistan all the taking is somewhat offset by the feeling that the treaty represents a great step forward in establishing neighbourly relations between the two countries. After 13 years of bitter recrimination, mutual suspicion and hatred, it is felt that now, at last, a point has been reached where India and Pakistan can co-exist peacefully and settle their numerous problems without recourse to arms.

The welcome Mr. Nehru received in Pakistan deeply gratified his people. The shouts of "Nehru zindabad" (Long live Nehru) which greeted the Indian Prime Minister in Karachi and Lahore were, according to the newspaper correspondents who accompanied him from Delhi, expressions of spontaneous affection. There was no question, they agreed, but that the people of Pakistan



Prime Minister Nehru, of India, with President Ayub Khan, of Pakistan. Express Photo

were overjoyed at the new atmosphere of cordiality both governments were striving to create.

It was in no tongue-in-cheek mood that the two leaders stated in their joint communiqué at the end of Mr. Nehru's visit that the settlement of the Indus dispute and earlier of various minor border disputes had paved the way for a new era of friendly cooperation.

The Indus agreement is to be followed by negotiations at other levels on disputes over the allocation of the assets of undivided India and the Ganga-Brahmaputra river systems in the eastern part of the sub-continent.

**Kashmir in Deep Freeze**

One issue, Kashmir, appears non-negotiable. India has rejected, and will continue to reject, Pakistan's demand for a plebiscite. Even the latest unofficial proposal emanating from Rawalpindi for three separate plebiscites—in Jammu, the Kashmir Valley and the Azad Kashmir territory held by Pakistan—has been turned down by New Delhi.

Pakistan, on the other hand, will not accept the present United Nations cease-fire with slight modifications where necessary, as a permanent boundary. So much emotional heat has been aroused in both countries over Kashmir in the last 10 years that neither government can retreat from the position it has taken without ominous political repercussions.

The Kashmir issue is therefore likely to go into deep freeze, and will stay there until the times are more propitious for an agreed solution, or until the accumulating tensions in this divided and discontented territory reach a point where they can no longer be ignored. There are strong reasons why each country should seek the other's friendship. For India, concentration on building a Himalayan defensive system to make her vulnerable border regions and Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim secure

against Communist Chinese military adventures and propaganda is impossible so long as she is uncertain about Pakistan's intentions. Obviously, a constant state of watchfulness on two borders is too great a strain on Indian military and financial resources and nerves.

For Pakistan, amity with India means a breach in the wall of antagonism which has grown round her because of her involvement in regional military pacts sponsored by the Western powers. Pakistan's army regime has realised that the country's participation in these alliances has isolated her from her non-aligned neighbours in South-east Asia and the Middle East. The U-2 incident, and the harsh Russian warning on the use of Pakistan's nuclear power, have shaken Pakistan's belief in the protective power of SEATO and CENTO.

A movement towards a less committed position is discernible in Rawalpindi. A very significant development is the Pakistan Government's sudden interest in a two-year-old Soviet offer to provide financial and technical assistance for oil exploration in the country. Talks on the terms of Soviet collaboration have begun.

**Ayub Needs Reappraisal**

There is still another pressing reason for President Ayub's eagerness for India's friendship. The initial popular enthusiasm generated by the regime's drive against corruption among the universally hated bureaucrats and politicians of Pakistan is waning. There is an acute scarcity of essential goods, price controls have failed to bring down the cost of living, urban unemployment is growing. With political parties banned and the press gagged, the unrest of the middle class is crystallizing round the mullahs and Islamic religious organizations.

India, whose industrial achievements are the admiration and envy of the educated Pakistanis, would therefore be a diplomatic triumph for the Ayub regime, apart from the material advantages to be derived from increased trade and cooperation in economic development.

But the Nehru Government has reservations about how far this process should go. In ruling circles here, the Pakistan regime, comprising Pathan and Punjabi officers drawn from the feudal landowning class of West Pakistan, is not regarded with particular favour. The dictatorship is considered reactionary, committed to preserving the vested interests of that class, whereas India's goal is a socialist society where landowners will soon be abolished. The Ayub regime, accordingly, cannot be supported, although in the interests of India it is necessary to respond to its gestures of friendship, remove the points of difference between the two countries and normalize their relations.

**No Joint Defence**

So long as the present regimes continue in Rawalpindi and New Delhi, any pact for joint defence of the sub-continent against external aggression, which means specifically Chinese aggression, can be safely ruled out, in spite of the loud demands for such a pact by the Swatantra Party (particularly its octogenarian leader former Governor-General C. Rajagopalachari) and other opposition groups both to the right and left of the Congress Party.

The Indian Government's view is that a joint defence pact would aggravate the Himalayan problem. An enraged China may promptly challenge the pact by new border incursions, perhaps even by large-scale attacks on the small Himalayan kingdoms. It is believed here that the problem is a political one, and to think in terms of a military solution may have very adverse consequences for India.

The signing of the Indus pact closes an embittered chapter in India-Pakistan affairs. Both nations may now look forward to a steady normalization of relations. The fundamental differences between the two Governments will, however, be an obstacle to anything warmer than good neighbourliness.

**YESTERDAY'S PRESS**

## THE LAVON AFFAIR

By THEODORE DREIBERG

Bevan (Hindustan), after reviewing the Cohn Committee report, repeats the views it expressed two weeks ago, to the effect that there is now justification for an announcement by an appropriate body to free Mr. Lavon finally of responsibility for the security breach. "Today," the paper writes, "the question of an announcement on this matter is still necessary.... The time has now come for all sides to call a recess in the handling of this affair."

At Hamishmar (Mapam) it is stated that the Cohn Committee's report and the Attorney-General's opinion on it show that further clarification of the affair cannot be carried out on a judicial level but must be handled by the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. "Any attempt to remove this matter from its hands would result in the truth being obscured rather than revealed," the paper declares.

Hatzotz (National Religious Party) calls on the Prime Minister to present the full report of the Cohn Committee to the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Commenting on the possibility of a Government inquiry, the paper writes: "This country, which is surrounded by enemies, would suffer from internal shocks. But it would suffer and be endangered even more by fears about dishonesty in the honesty, fairness and probity of the Government administration."

Haaretz (General Zionist) calls for an explanation of why the Prime Minister did not authorize the Cohn Committee to investigate the question of who was responsible for the security breach, "because otherwise the impression is likely to be created that he purposely limited his authority... so that he should not be able to claim that a committee must be

established to investigate the mishap.... One thing is clear: The two officers found to be trustworthy must go."

Ha'arets (non-party), on the subject of the crisis in Israel, says that the roots of the present situation are in the feeling of veteran elements that they have been treated aside by the Prime Minister in favour of a younger generation. "The conclusions of the Cohn Committee and the opinion of the Attorney-General will undoubtedly strengthen Mr. Lavon's position.... But Mr. Ben-Gurion is apparently unwilling to revise his personal evaluation of Mr. Lavon and his capacity to subvert the authority necessarily given to the one who heads the Government," the paper declares.

Haaretz, commenting on the alleged links between leaders of the National Religious Party and circles close to the Prime Minister regarding that party's possible support in return for certain concessions of Mr. Ben-Gurion's views on the handling of the controversy, writes: "All public opinion is opposed to Mr. Ben-Gurion's efforts to remove the handling of the affair from the hands of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.... Will the National Religious Party give him aid in this deal?"

Lamachar (Abdullah Ha'arad), which comments generally on the new session of the Knesset, also touches upon the controversy. The paper will not take up much of the plenary's time if the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee is allowed and helped to continue its investigation, the paper says. But if an attempt is made to take the investigation out of the committee's hands, "a storm in the Knesset may be expected," the paper declares.

**Yours, etc.**

ARTHUR P. WUHL

Jerusalem, October 23.

**POSTAL DELAY**

Dear Sir, On September 1, I sent an airmail letter to my husband in Switzerland. This letter was returned to me on September 4, as instead of 25 airmail I had posted on only 50 airmail worth of stamps. (Best: Hatzotz has no post office and so I have to rely on my inexact postal

Justice, and a survey of developments in the field of international commercial arbitration.

**Basic for Appraisal**

In a forward to the volume, Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld points out that "the development of the role of the United Nations in international affairs is a question under continuous and increasing discussion. To measure the impact of its activities in the political, economic or social fields, to evaluate the part it has played in the progress of dependent peoples to statehood or in the development of international law, there is a need for an authoritative record of its work, year by year, as a basis for correct perspective and sound appraisal. The United Nations 'Yearbook' is designed to meet that need."

Besides giving a narrative account of major United Nations proceedings, the 1959 'Yearbook' which is fully indexed, contains a detailed bibliography of documents and texts of resolutions for each subject dealt with in the year.

The work of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the specialized agencies is surveyed in a special section of the 'Yearbook.' One section deals with the first year's activities of the newest member of the U.N. family, the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization.

In addition, there are sections on the work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies with their areas and populations and the dates on which they became U.N. members. Another gives the full text of the U.N. Charter and the Statute of the International Court of Justice. A third section describes the structures, composition and membership of the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations. A fourth lists the members of all delegations to the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Trusteeship Council in 1959. Also listed are United Nations Information Centres and offices in various parts of the world.

The book includes two coloured inserts—one a chart of the flags of U.N. member states, the other a map showing U.N. member states, trust territories and non-self-governing territories.

The volume (and its predecessor covering the years 1948-1958) may be purchased from the official U.N. sales agent in Israel, B'nai B'rith Bookstore Ltd., 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000.

UN 1959 YEARBOOK IS RECORD OF PROGRESS

# MARGINAL COEXISTENCE

## On Politics and Geography

By Nisim Rejwan

Of the many interesting points raised by the recent reconciliation between Iraq and Jordan, perhaps the most instructive for the student of inter-Arab relations is the geopolitical one. The theory which states that the politics of a given country is determined largely by that country's geographical position is as old and well-known one and has generally been amply illustrated by examples from modern European history, but its validity can be demonstrated no less forcefully by Middle Eastern history, ancient and modern. If we concede for a moment that the character of inter-Arab relations after the 1918 Arab Revolt has been determined mainly in the countries of the Fertile Crescent (Iraq, Jordan, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon), then we find no difficulty in showing that the kindred concepts of Greater Syria and the Fertile Crescent plan were and remain the leading theme of inter-Arab politics these past 40 years or so.

NOW the Greater Syria and the Fertile Crescent Plans are in effect identical except for the fact that the former includes Iraq while the latter includes her. Of the two projects, advocated respectively by the Jordan of King Abdullah and the Iraq of the Hashemites, it was the Greater Syria plan that was conceived first. Both envisaged the annexation of Syria and King Abdullah's persistent efforts to effect a union with that country, with himself as head, played a leading role in aligning Syria with Egypt against the Hashemite States. When Abdullah's efforts failed, and after he had finally incorporated Eastern Palestine in 1920, Iraq replaced Jordan as a potential partner with Syria in the proposed union. But successive coups d'état in Damascus, beginning with that of Husni al-Zaim in March 1949, produced a situation so confused that only an extremely clumsy and hesitant Government in Baghdad could have failed to exploit it. In the end, of course, the Syrians opted for union with distant Egypt.

It was at this point that Baghdad found itself compelled to act, and to act quickly, since it was patently clear that Cairo could not reasonably rest content with Syria's annexation and had to extend the union to those countries to the south that could provide the natural and financial resources for the kind of pan-Arab union which Nasser was by then openly and actively advocating. The short-lived Arab Federation followed immediately and without much planning, because Iraq simply could not afford to see Jordan swept away by the wave of Nasserist pan-Arabism coming from

neighbouring Syria. In this connection, it is interesting to note that Saudi Arabia, which previously had actively opposed any union between Iraq and Jordan, kept quiet this time, as she found herself no less threatened by Nasser's drive than did Iraq.

THE July Revolution in Baghdad, and the subsequent dissolution of the union with Jordan, produced a situation which was to nobody's liking: only Cairo was liable to profit from it. On the one hand, Jordan was isolated; the Syrian Region stood between her and Lebanon, and an outlet to the sea, the desert lay between her and Saudi Arabia, and the Revolution cut her off from all contacts with Iraq. On the other hand, neither Saudi Arabia nor Iraq were happy to see King Hussein engaged in a highly unequal struggle with the United Arab Republic; the loss of Jordan would have meant endless troubles for both of them, since it would have brought the Nasserist threat to their doorsteps. It is indeed the opinion of reliable Arab observers that Saudi Arabia has been determined to come to the defence of King Hussein in the event of an intervention by Cairo against him; it is even said that the recent reconciliation between King Saud and Crown Prince Faisal has something to do with the increasing tension of the Jordan-Syrian borders.

THUS, seen in the light of pure geopolitical considerations, the rapprochement between Amman and Baghdad was in fact long overdue and served Nasser's purpose no less than it does Hussein's. (It is reliably reported that Riyadh, too, was instrumental in the reconciliation.) Whether or not it means that Iraq is on the way to reviving the Fertile Crescent plan is a more doubtful point. Knesset, on several occasions during the past 10 months or so, did refer to the plan and even said that it was feasible. Yet, in an interview recently with the correspondent of the Beirut French-language daily "Orient", Knesset himself shunned the idea of union with Jordan, although he added, in his characteristic vagueness and ambiguity, that Iraq would not tolerate foreign intervention in Jordan. "Though we will not take up arms against our Arab brethren," in this connection, it is of interest to note that a treaty of mutual defence between the two countries, which was ratified in 1947, has never been invoked and therefore remains in force. One wonders, however, if it will ever be invoked.

Tel Aviv, October 25.

## Readers' Letters

**DEATH-TRAP**

Dear Sir, I was just in Jerusalem as a result of being run over by a number 8 bus, apparently because, despite public opinion, pedestrian demands and police observations, the traffic regulations for Jaffa Road were altered and, even worse, the traffic lights at the Jaffa Road-King George crossing were discontinued. An instrument which worked perfectly and to the advantage of the public was replaced by a traffic light which was for no justifiable reason a death trap.

I myself was knocked down by a vehicle at this very spot. Fortunately, nothing happened to me, but unfortunately no policeman was present at the time. I was there four times a day and find that now that traffic has been left to public vehicles only, crossing has become even more frightening than ever.

These traffic lights must be put into action again and I suggest that others be put up at Ben Yehuda Road and at the corner of Hanavim and Gush Street.

I wonder whether this letter will have the desired effect on the responsible authority, but I hope that some consideration will be given to the fact that the sacrifice of a human life was needed to show up the terrible mistake which was made.

Yours, etc.

ARTHUR P. WUHL

Jerusalem, October 23.

**POSTAL DELAY**

Dear Sir, On September 1, I sent an airmail letter to my husband in Switzerland. This letter was returned to me on September 4, as instead of 25 airmail I had posted on only 50 airmail worth of stamps. (Best: Hatzotz has no post office and so I have to rely on my inexact postal

weight.) Meanwhile, it was too late to send the letter to Switzerland, since my husband was due to leave for Germany on September 6. I went personally to the post office to find out how I could send the letter directly to Germany. I was told that I could not change the address. I had a) to use a new envelope, b) to pay the full fee once more.

Not only was my husband deprived of urgent news from home, but I was made to pay an additional fee for this excellent service. Why was no postcard sent to me—as in other cases?

This, however, reminds me of a parallel case when my husband was sent to the Far East two years ago. Then, too, a letter addressed to him in Holland was returned to me for a similar reason. After I had mailed it again with the required stamps, it was sent back to me once more by mistake. After a telephone complaint to the Postal Authorities, a very helpful Mr. Sharon told me to send him the letter in a new envelope which he would send straight on to Tokyo, Japan.

He did so—with a letter of inquiry to the Postal Authorities in Japan as to the date of arrival of said letter. As a result, my husband never received the letter until it came back to Jerusalem three months later.

Yours, etc.

ALISA WORSLOVSKY

Jerusalem, September 12.

**Post Office Replies**

The Post Office forwards postal matter which does not have the correct amount of stamps on it only if its weight does not exceed 30 grams; if it weighs more, it is returned to the addressee for additional stamps. The letter referred to

weighed about 30 grams. It was dropped into the mailbox after the collection on September 1 and therefore could not be returned in time for the postmen's rounds the next morning, September 2.

We cannot send such a letter on to a different address, but your correspondent could have sent a new letter instead. She would then have been refunded the postal fee for the first letter lost the fee for a local letter. Apparently, Mrs. Worslovsky was not given this information by the clerk and we shall make suitable steps in this connection.

Yours, etc.

ALISA WORSLOVSKY

Jerusalem, September 12.

**Guided Tours of Jerusalem**

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